

Trans-Lake Washington Project

Trans-Lake Washington Public Opinion Survey

June, 2001

Prepared for the Washington State Dept. of Transportation in collaboration with the Trans-Lake Washington Study Committee and Parametrix

Pacific Rim Resources
We inform, engage and empower for the greater good.

Trans-Lake Washington Project

INTRODUCTION

PROJECT PURPOSE

Measure public opinion regarding Trans-Lake issues:

- Eight proposed alternatives
- Mitigation and enhancements
- Likelihood to use transportation options

Trans-Lake Washington Project

INTRODUCTION

RESEARCH METHODS

- Statistically valid telephone survey conducted in May-June of 2001 for generalizing to the larger Puget Sound population.

Trans-Lake Washington Project

INTRODUCTION


TELEPHONE SURVEY

- 1,195 telephone interviews of adults (18+)
- Random digit dialing used to capture those with unlisted phone numbers
- Respondents selected randomly proportionate to zip code population
- Respondents selected randomly to mirror geographic area year 2000 census demographics
- Overall margin of error = ± 2.83 percent

Trans-Lake Washington Project

INTRODUCTION

Sample Area & Sub-areas



Trans-Lake Washington Project

INTRODUCTION

Data Analysis

- Data analyzed by independent variables:
 - Gender
 - Age
 - Region sub-area
 - Income
 - Ethnicity
 - Number of vehicles in household
 - Frequency of SR 520 bridge use
 - Frequency of I-90 bridge use
 - Trip purpose
 - Most common mode of transportation
 - Length of time living in Puget Sound
 - Presence of employer incentives for public transit
 - Presence of flextime or telecommuting
 - Employment status



INTRODUCTION

Data Analysis

- Regardless of gender, region sub-area, income, frequency of lake crossing, method of lake crossing, etc., people's attitudes toward the eight alternatives, transportation improvement values, mitigation and enhancements, and likelihood to use transportation options are essentially the same or very similar.



PUBLIC OPINION FINDINGS

- Slightly more than one-fourth of the respondents (26.1%) travel across Lake Washington once a week or more on SR 520.
- People's attitudes toward the eight alternatives are essentially the same or very similar, regardless of region sub-area, travel behavior or demographics.
- The two alternatives that include High Capacity Transit were rated the most popular.
- More than half (56.7%) reported that High Capacity Transit was the preferred way to get more people across Lake Washington compared to General Purpose or HOV lanes.



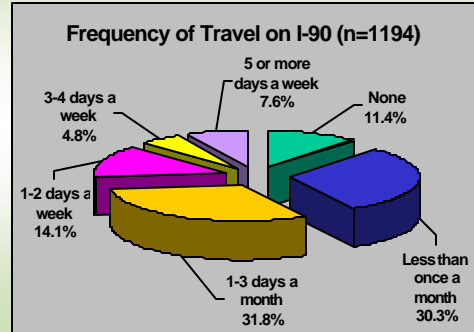
PUBLIC OPINION FINDINGS

- Respondents reported that they were more likely to use additional General Purpose lanes than any other option. Light was second.
- More than three-quarters of the respondents (76.4%) reported that the project should go forward even if 30% of the expenditures would be spent on mitigation and enhancements.
- The majority of respondents reported favoring adding lanes to SR 520 despite the costs -- 45.7% favored adding two lanes for \$3 billion and 37.2% favored adding four lanes for \$6 billion.



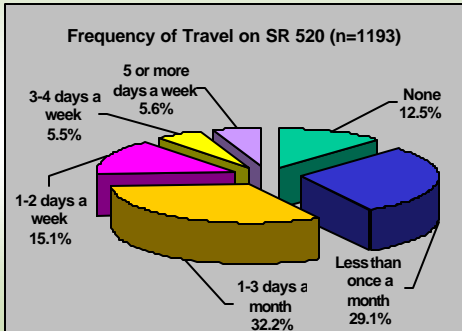
TRAVEL BEHAVIOR

*Barely more than a quarter (26.5%) of respondents reported using I-90 once a week or more.



TRAVEL BEHAVIOR

*Similar to I-90 usage, only 26.2% reported traveling on SR 520 at least once a week.



TRAVEL BEHAVIOR

*A vast majority report they most frequently drive alone across Lake Washington.

*Less than a quarter reported carpooling most frequently.

